

Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 AF-08 ARA-06 EA-07 NEA-10
ACDA-07 ERDA-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NASA-01 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OIC-02 SP-02 PA-01 PRS-01
OES-06 SS-15 SAJ-01 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 USIE-00
ERDE-00 /118 W

-----141123Z 032352 /17

O R 141000Z FEB 77

FM AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9786

INFO AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY OSLO

USSMISSION GENEVA 1056

USMISSION USNATO

USMISSION USUN

AMCONSUL GOTEBORG

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 STOCKHOLM 669

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UN, PARM, SW

SUBJECT: UN SPECIAL SESSION ON DISARMAMENT

REF: STATE 26795

1. POLITICAL COUNSELOR MET WITH LARS-GORAN ENGFELDT, MFA
OFFICIAL RESPONSIBLE FOR DISARMAMENT MATTERS, ON FEBRUARY 11
FOR EXCHANGE OF VIEWS ON UNGA SPECIAL SESSION ON
DISARMAMENT (SSOD) AND PREPCOMS RELATED THERETO.

2. GENERAL SWEDISH VIEW OF SSOD - REFLECTING SWEDEN'S
TRADITIONALLY STRONG INTEREST AND INVOLVEMENT IN
DISARMAMENT AFFAIRS, AND AS THE FIRST GOVERNMENT OUTSIDE
THE NON-ALIGNED BLOC TT SUPPORT THE CONCEPT OF A SPECIAL
SESSION ON DISARMAMENT UNDER GENERAL ASSEMBLY AUSPICES,
THE GOS WILL GIVE HIGHEST PRIORITY TO SSOD AND PREPARATIONS THERE-
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FORE. SWEDEN FIRMLY OF BELIEF THAT UN ROLE IN DISARMAMENT MUST
BE STRENGTHENED AND WILL CONTINUE TO WORK TOWARD THAT GOAL.
GOS VIEWS SSOD AS A CRUCIAL STARTING POINT WHERE DESIRED UN
ROLE MUST BE DEVELOPED. SSOD SHOULD NOT, HOWEVER, ATTEMPT AN
ALL-ENCOMPASSING APPROACH COVERING ENTIRE RANGE OF DISARMAMENT
QUESTIONS. RATHER, TARGETING SHOULD BE AGAINST SPECIFIC ISSUES OF
GREATEST CONCERN TO WORLD COMMUNITY WHERE TANGIBLE

PROGRESS TOWARD RESOLUTION MAY BE MEASURED AS A RESULT OF SSOD. (ENGFELDT NEVERTHELESS DOUBTED THIS CRITERION WOULD BE USED AS SUBJECTS WERE RAISED FOR DEBATE.)

3. GOS PREPARATIONS - SSOD IS NOW SUBJECT OF SERIOUS INTERAGENCY DISCUSSION WITHIN THE GOVERNMENT. THERE IS EXTRAORDINARY INTEREST IN THESE QUESTIONS ON THE PART OF BOTH PRIME MINISTER FALLDIN AND FOREIGN MINISTER SODER. GOS HOPES TO SCHEDULE BILATERAL DISCUSSIONS WITH BROAD VARIETY OF GOVERNMENTS FROM NOW THROUGH SSOD, INCLUDING THOSE OF SISTER NORDIC COUNTRIES (NORDIC FOREIGN MINISTERS' MEETING TO BE HELD AT REYKJAVIK IN MARCH), KEY NON-ALIGNED (YUGOSLAVIA AND INDIA PARTICULARLY), AND OTHER PREPCON MEMBERS INCLUDING THE SUPERPOWERS. ENGFELDT SAID GOS WARMLY WELCOMES US SUPPORT FOR AND PARTICIPATION IN SSOD. SWEDEN HAS GREATLY APPRECIATED AND BENEFITED FROM WELL-ESTABLISHED DIALOGUE WITH US ON DISARMAMENT MATTERS AT CCD AND HOPES FOR SIMILARLY CLOSE CONSULTATIONS ON SSOD AND PREPCOMS. AMBASSADOR GUSTAF HAMILTON (AT CCD) WILL LEAD GOS DELEGATION TO FIRST PREPCOM IN MARCH (DELEGATION WILL ALSO INCLUDE ENGFELDT). AMBASSADOR INGA THORSSON WILL PARTICIPATE WITH HAMILTON IN MAY PREPCOM. ENGFELDT SAID THORSSON WILL BE IN WASHINGTON DURING FIRST HALF OF MARCH AND HOPES TO MEET WITH KEY USG OFFICIALS INVOLVED IN SSOD PREPARATIONS. MINISTER-COUNSELOR ECKERBERG WILL BE INSTRUCTED TO SEEK SUCH HIGH-LEVEL APPOINTMENTS FOR THORSSON. POLITICAL COUNSELOR ASSURED ENGFELDT, IN RESPONSE, THAT US FULLY RECIPROCATES DESIRE FOR CLOSE AND FREQUENT CONSULTATIONS

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AND THAT EMBASSY WOULD BE PLEASED TO INDICATE TO THE DEPARTMENT ITS STRONG ENDORSEMENT OF THORSSON'S PROPOSED TALKS IN WASHINGTON.

4. MARCH PREPCOM - ENGFELDT SAID HE UNDERSTOOD MEETING, ORIGINALLY SCHEDULED FOR MARCH 7-11, HAD NOW BEEN POSTPONED TO MARCH 28. GOS HAS NOT YET REACHED CONCLUSIONS ON ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS WHICH WILL PREOCCUPY FIRST PREPCOM. LIKE OTHER GOVERNMENTS, GOS WILL BE SOLICITING THE VIEWS OF KEY NON-ALIGNED AND OTHER PREPCOM MEMBERS ON SUCH PROCEDURAL QUESTIONS WHICH WILL THEN BE CRANKED INTO INTERAGENCY CONSIDERATION. GOS BELIEVES SUCCESS OF FIRST MEETING CRUCIAL TO ENTIRE SSOD PROCESS AND THAT 'LEVEL OF AMBITION' MUST BE HIGH. SINCE SUBSTANTIVE NEGOTIATIONS WILL BEGIN IMMEDIATELY AFTER MARCH MEETING, THE DEBATE ON PROCEDURAL QUESTIONS WILL HAVE A PERVASIVE INFLUENCE ON THESE NEGOTIATIONS. FAILURE HERE WOULD SERIOUSLY DAMAGE WHATEVER PROSPECTS NOW EXIST FOR A SUCCESSFUL SSOD NEXT YEAR. ENGFELDT

SAID GOS VIEWS ON ORGANIZATIONAL AND PROCEDURAL ASPECTS
WOULD BE CLARIFIED OVER THE NEXT SEVERAL WEEKS AT WHICH
TIME GOS WOULD BE PLEASED TO CONSULT ABAIN WITH EMBASSY.

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5. PROBABLE SSOD ISSUES:

A. FUTURE OF INTERNATIONAL NEGOTIATING MACHINERY -
ENGFELDT SAID IT WAS MOST LIKELY THAT PROPOSALS WILL BE PUT
FORTH TO REPLACE CCD WITH OTHER ENTITIES ENSURING BROADER
UN MEMBERSHIP. WHILE GOS HAS NO FIRM POSITION HERE, IT
BELIEVES THAT AS LONG AS CCD EXISTS, NOTHING SHOULD BE
DONE TO DISRUPT ITS WORK.

B. NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT - LIKELY TO BE THE MAIN THEMSE
OF THE SSOD. THE SUCCESS OF THE ENTIRE SSOD PROCESS
DEPENDS ON A GOOD DEBATE AND SOME MEASURE OF TANGIBLE
RESULT HERE. RESPONSIBILITY LIES ON BOTH SIDES. THE
NON-ALIGNED MUST PUT FORTH 'PRODUCTIVE' RESOLUTIONS AND
THE US AND USSR ('THE REAL ACTORS') SHOULD BE PREPARED
TO OFFER CONCRETE PLEDGES.

C. SECURITY GUARANTEES TO NON-NUCLEAR STATES - WILL
CERTAINLY BE ON THE AGENDA AND THE GOS WILL MAKE CLEAR ITS
VIEWS ON THE NON-USE PLEDGE THAT MIGHT BE GIVEN NON-NPT
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STATES.

D. COMPREHENSIVE TEST BAN - ENGFELDT WENT OVER THE MOST RECENT GOS INITIATIVE TO TABLE SWEDISH DRAFT PROPOSAL FOR CBT TREATY AT CCD (DESCRIBED IN STATE 31258). HE REPEATED GOS HOPE THAT TREATY MIGHT BE SIGNED DURING SSOD NEXT YEAR, AND EMPHASIZED THE PSYCHOLOGICAL BOOST THIS WOULD PROVIDE TO SPECIAL SESSION.

E. CHECMICAL WEAPONS BAN - GOS BELIEVES THIS WILL BE RAISED AND HOPES SUFFICIENT PROGRESS MIGHT BE MADE TO MAKE IT POSSIBLE TO SIGN AN AGREEMENT DURING SSOD. THORSSON WILL BE SEEKING MOST RECENT US VIEWS ON THE ISSUE DURING HER MARCH VISIT TO WASHINGTON.

F. REDUCTION OF CONVENTIONAL ARMS - MOST CERTAINLY WILL BE RAISED BY THE NON-ALIGNED WHO REGARD QUESTION AS RESPONSIBILITY OF INDUSTRIAL POWERS. THIRD WORLD SENSITIVITIES IN THIS AREA HAVE ALWAYS BEEN OF GREAT CONCERN TO GOS.

G. RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN DISARMAMENT AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT - GOS CURRENTLY HAS INTERAGENCY GROUP STUDYING QUESTION. LIKE MOST INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES, SWEDEN HAS THUS FAR CONFINED ITSELF TO RHETORICAL STATEMENTS VOID OF SOLID CONCLUSIONS.

H. RULES OF WAR TREATY - SHOULD CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS TO REACH FINAL AGREEMENT FAIL, GOS HOPES ADDITIONAL EFFORTS WILL BE MADE TO PERMIT THE SIGNING OF AN AGREEMENT DURING THE SSOD.

I. WORLD DISARMAMENT CONFERENCE - GOS APPRECIATES REASONING BEHIND US LACK OF ENTHUSIASM FOR SUCH A CONFERENCE. SWEDEN AGREES THAT PROPOSAL IS A NON-STARTER UNLESS THE PARTICIPATION OF ALL PERMANENT MEMBERS G THE SECURITY COUNCIL IS GUARANTEED.

6. ENGFLEDT PONDERED THE QUESTION OF THE CHINESE ATTITUDE TOWARD SSOD, NOTING ITS NEGATIVE STANCE THUS FAR. WHILE SWEDEN HOPES PEKING WILL INVOLVE ITSELF IN SSOD PROCESS, CHINESE OBSTINANCY SHOULD NOT BE PERMITTED TO
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DELAY OR INTERFERE WITH PLANNING FOR SPECIAL SESSION.

7. COMMENT: GIVEN SWEDEN'S TRADITIONAL INTEREST IN DISARMAMENT MATTERS AND ITS APPARENT DETERMINATION TO PLAY A LEADING ROLE IN SSOD AND THE PREPCOMS, THE EMBASSY ASSUMES THE DEPARTMENT WILL AGREE ON THE IMPORTANCE OF FREQUENT CONSULTATIONS WITH LEADING GOS OFFICIALS IN

DISARMAMENT FIELD. WE BELIEVE LATTER WILL CONTINUE TO BE
RESPONSIVE TO US SUGGESTION AND THAT OPPORTUNITIES WILL
ARISE IN WHICH SWEDISH INFLUENCE, PARTICULARLY WITH THE
NON-ALIGNED, CAN BE USED TO HELP TAILOR SPECIFIC
INITIATIVES DEVELOPED WITHIN THE SSOD TO CONFORM BETTER
TO US ARMS CONTROL AND DISARMAMENT OBJECTIVES. THE VISIT
OF THORSSON TO WASHINGTON IN MARCH SHOULD BE SEIZED UPON
THEREFORE, AS THE BEGINNING POINT OF AN EVEN MORE
INTENSE DIALOGUE ON DISARMAMENT WITH NEUTRAL SWEDEN.
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